



No Greater Joy



What Would I Do Without Bobbie Sue?

Most girls diddle away what could be the most productive time of their lives, waiting for life to happen; but not all girls waste their lives.

Elizabeth came to work for NGJ as my handmaiden when she was 16. She was with me 10 years until swept away by her Prince Charming this past summer. Lizzy was my most valuable helper, and I trembled at the thought of losing her. It was as if half my brain was being cut out. But God in his mercy sent me the invaluable Bobbie Sue to serve as my handmaid. She is NGJ's chief cook and bottle-washer, phone order taker, Shindig coordinator, seminar planner, keeps up with my Facebook, emails, writes letters, processes the mail, buys whatever we need including the groceries, even feeds the cats...what would I do without Bobbie Sue? Not much.

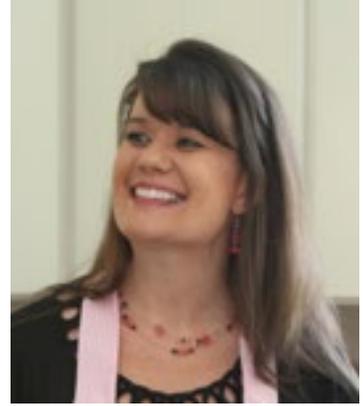


Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

How are you spending your youth? Many ministries, missionaries, or even overwhelmed mothers need a hardworking handmaiden. Seize the moment. ~ *Debi* *

Did you enjoy **The Great Ozark Mountain Shindig?**

Our family went to the Ozark Shindig and had the time of our lives! Just wanted to thank everyone and the Pearls for their love and giving!

— *Sue from Iowa*

See photos from the Shindig
— **turn to page 30**

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Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

A Cup of Tea

By Beka Joy (Reprinted from our July-August 2007 issue)

“Fine china” will never make it to heaven.

When Joy turned four years old, her birthday requests included a tea set and an apron. Unlike her mother, Joy is the classic “little lady.”

She had multiple miniature tea sets, and although they gave a day’s thrill, Joy was more interested in actually serving the whole family a “real tea time” than just pretending. So we made a trek out to the pole barn and dug out a carefully-wrapped 50-year-old box: my great-grandmother’s bone china.

Joy carefully helped me unwrap and wash each gold-embossed piece, talking the whole time with utmost excitement about how she was going to serve tea. The pink roses never bloomed so brightly on that china set as they did for Joy. Each day after naps, the girls and I set the table with

saucers and cups, creamer and sugar bowls, and fill the teapot with tea. Little china bowls of nuts, fruit, and tiny cookies are set out. Then Joy triumphantly serves tea in her little ruffled apron. Sometimes Daddy and Joe join us. Joy knows how to pour and stir and does it all with a charming giggle.

Now, you should know that Joy is not naturally very attentive or intuitively graceful. She’s actually a bit of a space cadet and is constantly knocking things over, running into walls, and falling off her chair. She is the most bruised and scratched-up kid I’ve seen since my sister Shoshanna was little. To watch her set the table with fine china is truly a breathtaking experience, to say the least. But I’ve no intention of



taking that china to Heaven with me, and Joy needs something to give her incentive to learn grace and attention. I am not a tea party kind of gal myself.

When I was a girl, my all-consuming interest was reading and writing. I remember my parents driving me all over Memphis to look in every office supply store for a hardcover, lined journal that I could write my stories in.

This was before the journal and diary craze hit the market, and real journal notebooks were impossible to find. I loved those precious lined pages. I used to finger them with pleasure, and put my nose in the white pages to breathe in the clean smell of new paper. It was a sheer joy to write every letter of each word, and I sat for hours thinking up poems and stories so that I could continue to write. It seemed as though my hand craved the feel of the wooden pencil and the detailed motion of each stroke. But just as Joy is not intuitively graceful, I was not intuitively a good writer. I had

extreme dyslexia and viewed the world in doubles until I was about four years old. For years, I wrote most of my letters backwards. I remember telling myself to write the letters the opposite of what seemed right so that my story would be readable. In time and with huge amounts of practice, I learned to write my letters without having to double-check myself.

Your daughter may be neither a tea party lady nor a writer, but she surely has a noticeable interest that drives her. She may not be like you in her likes and dislikes, but she is like you in spirit and heart. She needs a mama to provide her with the tools that will enable her to become great at what she enjoys, even if her handicaps seem overwhelming.

Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, the author of one of the best music school theories in the world, tells a story about a little girl with paralysis on one side of her body. This little girl wanted to learn to play the violin. Her crippled arm kept jerking and throwing the bow, and her mother

had to pick it up and put it back in her hand again and again. The little girl's eyes could not focus on the violin for correct fingering. The mother was grieved for her daughter and wanted her to stop trying, but Dr. Suzuki encouraged her to continue. Within six months, the "permanent" paralysis was beginning to fade and the girl could play her first piece of music all the way through without jerking. She became a fine violinist, and her childhood paralysis is now just history.

It's altogether too easy, upon recognizing our children's weaknesses and handicaps, to give in

to making harmful pronouncements on them: "You'll never be a good housekeeper," or "You'll never be a good driver," or "You'll never be a good teacher," and shut the door on a world of possibilities. Handicaps come and go, as so many true stories have proven down through the centuries. Never assume you know what your child was made for; instead, rightly assume that you were made to beat a path for him or her to find it. It may mean digging out grandmother's china or driving all over town to find the perfect journal. But take it from me, the struggle is very much worth the finish. ✱



4 c. Apple Juice
2 sticks cinnamon
8 cloves

*Spiced
Apple Cider*

On a cold winter's night, I slip my feet into slippers and sit near the old wood stove holding a cup of hot homemade spiced apple cider. Nothing is as cozy nor as simple.

Put all ingredients in a saucepan. Cook on medium heat for 5 minutes or until simmering, turn off heat. Enjoy!

Cinnamon and cloves are available from BulkHerbStore.com



The Midas Touch

By Debi Pearl

Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.

An old man sat watching the crowd rush into the meeting hall. He wished he could help arrange the chairs for the meeting, but age had taken his ability to serve. Instead, he spoke to two older teens sitting behind him. “The books in the back need to be placed on the seats.” The young men acknowledged the old man by nodding, yet they continued to just sit and watch people file in. Why? Are they lazy? Are they rebellious? Are they dumb, insecure, or just shy?

A big storm approached the huge field as a farmer and his wife struggled to load a truck and trailer with a hundred bales of hay. Next to the field, within clear view, eight teenage boys played volleyball.

They knew the farmer—they were actually playing on the farmer’s property—yet they continued to play. Occasionally one of the boys would look over to see if the farmer and his wife would be able to beat the storm. Why did the young men NOT help? What caused them to have so little concern for their neighbor and friend racing against the weather? Did they not care that their neighbor’s hay might get wet? Maybe the young men were bitter at their parents. Or were they just so self-centered that they didn’t care? It makes you wonder if their parents bothered to teach them the golden rule: **Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.**

Every morning the average

8-year-old, homeschooled child steps over a pile of clothes to get to the kitchen table. He never sees the clothes on the floor, and even if he did, it would not occur to him to pick up the clothes unless commanded to do so. Even then the kid might complain.

These children are in training to sit while others work, and to keep their hands busy in play while their neighbor is in need. They have never been trained to notice a need and rise to the occasion.

It never occurs to most people that they have a duty to God and their fellow man to notice a need and rise to meet it. Throughout the book of Proverbs this subject is addressed. The entire book is about sowing and reaping; what you put in is what you get out. Consequences, good or bad, are the result of proactive deeds, good or bad. Reward comes to those who run the race, lend a hand, say a kind word and give without expectation of return. For instance, I just flipped open my Bible to Proverbs 24:1-4. Listen to this simple caution and instruction on how to be rich.

“Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them. For their heart studieth destruction, and their lips talk of mischief. Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”

If you think evil people are cool and wish you could be like them, or worse, if you hang out with them, then the natural consequences will not be health or wealth. Are you in a

pinch for money? Then seek wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. If Mama sits home year after year and doesn't keep her mind sharp with a constant flow of learning, then she will suffer the consequences as she sees her house pulled down. A strong house is built on wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. Wisdom comes from God's Word; become acquainted with what God says.

Understanding comes from practicing that wisdom and making it a part of your life. Luke 6:49 says, **“But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.”** Knowledge comes from study of many subjects. When you spend your life watching movies, camped on Facebook, or engaged in trivial pursuits, you can expect the emptiness and misery predicted in Proverbs.

We have lived a long time and seen countless children grow up. Most get married and struggle in a variety of ways. We have seen other couples flourish in marriage, children, health, and prosperity.

Intelligence has little to do with success; natural abilities play a lesser role than one might think. Education is helpful, but it is not the driving force for success. The Midas touch, which is the title given to the ability to seemingly make money out of air, comes to people of a certain mindset. They just succeed at everything they put their minds to. This Midas touch is not a gift given to some; it is an attitude of service that sets some people apart to be winners. I call them “step-up” people.

Being trained to see a need, know you can fill that need, and then stepping up to do all you can is the formula for success. This attitude starts in the toddler.

Most rich or successful people didn't start out rich or even start out trying to get rich. They started out as people who observed a need and jumped in with all they had to fill that need, and the rewards just naturally followed. It is the Proverbs way.

It is interesting to note that the step-up person is never too high to do the lowest job. He will scrub toilets or pick up the trash that fell out of someone else's car and never think anything of it. What he does is not a job description; it is a way of viewing life.

I read a story of two college students arranging a series of tests for other college students to predict who would be successful and who wouldn't. One of the experiments was to place a piece of trash on the floor of a busy lunch room. Hundreds of students stepped over the trash. Not one student stooped to pick up the paper. Then the dean of the school walked in and without hesitation picked up the trash. One of the testers replied, "Oh, he just picked it up because he is dean." The other tester was wiser in his summation: "No, he is the dean because he is the kind of man who

sees a need and takes care of it."

Every business owner looks, hopes, and dreams of acquiring this type of worker. Seldom is one available because he is either highly paid and happy in his job or he is running his own business.

The eight young men playing volleyball didn't have the step-up attitude. They will never know the Midas touch unless something radical happens in their attitude. The two young men who sat doing nothing when the old man prodded them to help will struggle their whole adult lives always feeling as if they got the short end of the stick. They will wait for the right opportunity while a thousand opportunities stroll right past them.

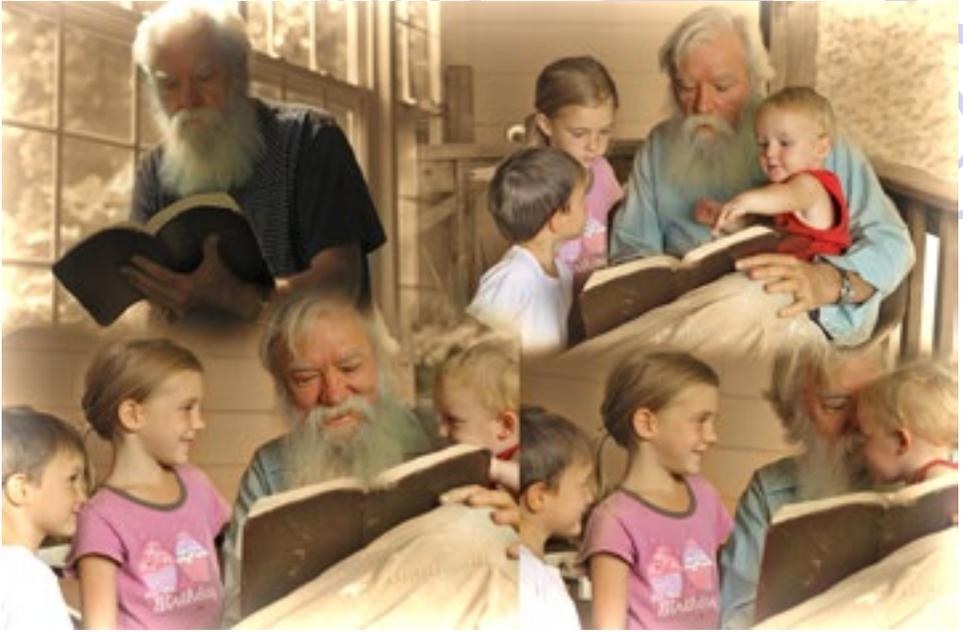
So how do you break this cycle? It is all about attitude, mind-set, heart-set, and frame of reference. Are you willing to serve others? Do dirty jobs? Step up even to the point of being used? Be willing to live your life with this motto: *I will observe the needs around me and I will teach my children to observe. I will seek to understand what I can do to help, and I will show my children how we can make a difference. I will do what I can to make it happen, and I will take the time to see that my children are a part of the solution.*

Why do some children grow up full of life and gladness? Why do they make better wives and husbands? Why do they make worthy missionaries? Why do some people seem to have God's blessing on their lives and others don't? An attitude of gratitude and willingness to serve are the keys. Take time to read Proverbs—you will find it very insightful. *

...continue to the next part



Michael continues where Debi left off...



Photos: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

3,000-Year-Old Child Training Book Discovered

By Michael Pearl

Proverbs is the best child training book ever written.

This ancient child training book wasn't misplaced, though the content of it is still lost to most parents.

Nearly three thousand years ago, the wisest man who ever lived, King Solomon, wrote a book to young men and to parents concerning training their children. The word "children" appears in his book 16 times, "child" twice. He even speaks directly to children four different times. As any parent, he was deeply interested in instructing his own sons, so the address "my son" appears 23 times. He speaks to parents in general concerning their children many more times.

The book of Proverbs is undoubtedly the best child training book ever written—the one we used to train up our children. Our first book, "To Train Up A Child," having sold nearly one million copies in twelve languages, drew its title from this divinely inspired book. The famous verse says, "***Train up a child in the way he should go... and then promises that if we do indeed train him 'in the way he should go...when he is old, he will not depart from it' (Proverbs 22:6).***" Wow! What a big promise—a certainty that our properly trained child will not depart from "the way

he should go”—not now, not later, and not even “when he is old.” Many Bible believing parents have proven God to be true in this regard.

In the introduction to his book, Solomon says, “My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother” (Proverbs 1:8).

Again, addressing children, he says, “Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. For I was my father’s son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother” (Proverbs 4:1-3). Interestingly, he taught children “doctrine”—not systematic theology. The doctrine (teachings) of Proverbs concerns wisdom, discretion, and self-discipline.

The same book that commands us to train up our children provides details in the areas we should train.

Solomon encouraged all children to attend to his instruction because he was “his father’s son”—indicating a satisfying relationship with his father—and he was “beloved” in the sight of his mother. Solomon was motivated by his rich experience as a child to play it forward to other children and young men.

The same book that commands us to train up our children provides details in the areas we should train. To overlook this book is to forfeit the greatest opportunity to train our children in the way they should go. Proverbs 22 is clearly a child training guide. Note verses 6 and 15.

The format of this magazine does not allow us to examine the entire

book, so we will look at a few verses in the context of our verse, ***“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6).***



Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

Solomon’s Child Training 101
“A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold” (Proverbs 22:1).

Just moments ago, as I sat writing this article, I was interrupted by the voice of my wife, outside my window, fussing at Jeremiah, our 7-year-old most beloved grandson. I went out to see what caused Deb so much concern. Jeremiah and some of the other grandkids were on the office porch. He had grabbed an umbrella and was aggressively using it for some imaginary purpose—putting its structural integrity at risk. So I walked up to him and very quietly, patiently, and seriously said, “Jeremiah, that umbrella is kept on the porch so when it rains the office workers can get to their cars without getting wet. The next time someone needs it, they will unfold it and say, ‘Oops, it is broken. Wonder who did that?’ Someone will answer, ‘Jeremiah was the one who broke it.’”

I looked him in the eyes and asked, “Do you want to be known as the boy who destroys stuff, or as a wise boy who is a helper? If you are careless with things that are of value,

people will not like you or trust you. You will not have a good name. The name Jeremiah will sound like a bad name to people. Is that what you want?" He answered, "No, I want a good name." I folded the umbrella and laid it on the table where it is kept and walked away, knowing without a doubt that my "doctrine" had found a good home in Jeremiah's growing character.

Note: Essential to the productiveness of the experience for Jeremiah, I did not get angry, I did not raise my voice, I did not quote Bible verses and try to shame him, and I did not leave him feeling rejected or shunned. I did not drag it out and leave him emotionally exhausted. It was a matter simply stated and dismissed—fellowship intact.

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold." Proverbs 22:1

There will be a thousand times in a child's developing years (till they leave home) that you will need to remind them of the importance of maintaining their name, their reputation. Once lost, it is very hard to get back.

One note of warning: When children are proud of their family and recognize they have earned a good name, they do not want to be the one to throw away that reputation. It is a thing of great value to them. However, if their family has been a source of hurt and pain, they will deliberately do things to shame the family name. It is their most powerful way of getting back at those who hurt them. It doesn't

matter that you think you did not hurt them. It only matters that they feel hurt.

"The rich and poor meet together: the LORD is the maker of them all" (Proverbs 22:2).

The discerning parent understands the importance of instilling in our children a non-judgmental attitude toward people of a different economic class. It works both ways. I have seen disgustingly snobby attitudes of the rich toward the poor, but it is just as common, maybe more so, to see a poor man despising the rich. Children should be raised in an environment where they take no note of one's wealth or lack thereof. The other day I heard a child say, "We can't afford that; we are poor." It was said with such resignation and self depreciation that I could hear the devil in it. How awful to cause a child to consider her economic status as it if were a measure of anything significant. I never knew we were poor when I was growing up. I could see that our vehicles were older (when we had one). I was aware that other people had steak and cake when we had beans and rice pudding. I never heard the word "poor" at home.

My father sometimes worked for rich folk. I knew they were rich, but I never felt the need to set them apart, to either look up to them or to despise them. I never felt my daddy or my mother to be inferior or superior to anyone. I never heard disparaging words spoken about anyone's economic status, be they poor or rich. Money was never a measure of anything. In my thinking there were two kinds of people in the

Continued on page 14...

NGJKids

Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com



See a Need, Fill a Need

Jesus looked across the hillside where over 5,000 people sat listening to him teach all day long. It was late and everyone was hungry, but there was no food available. One young boy who had brought his lunch from home saw the need and offered his little lunch to the disciples. Jesus accepted the gift and performed a miracle, multiplying the five little loaves of bread and the two small fish so that thousands of people were able to eat until they were filled. The

little boy saw a need, and Jesus multiplied his gift. Do you ever look around and see a need that you can fill? The boy could have said, "It is my lunch; Mother made it for me. They should have brought something to eat, and it is so little; it wouldn't help much anyhow." Do you help those who have a need, or do you say, "I have been working all day. It is my turn to play"? No matter how small you are or how little your gift, God can multiply your gift to bless many. ~ *Shalom* *

Scripture Memory Look up the verse below, fill in the missing words and memorize it!

Proverbs 12:24



The hand of the _____ shall
bear rule; but the _____ shall
be under tribute.

Kids' Contest Time!

This month's contest is about helping those in need. Find a need and fill a need. It might be helping your mom, dad, brother, sister, or maybe a friend or a mother who needs help cleaning her house; or it could be as simple as seeing some trash on the ground, picking it up and throwing it away.

To be a part of the contest, follow these instructions:

1. Write a story or draw a picture about a need you met this month.
2. Be sure to include your name and age with the picture or story.
3. Send it to us at:
NGJ ART Contest
1000 Pearl Road
Pleasantville, TN 37033-1796



Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

Applications will be judged by the NGJ Staff. The Grand Winner will be printed in the January-February 2014 issue and posted on the web. Entries must be received by November 4, 2013.

Joanna's Corn Muffins

- 1 large (or 2 small) ears of cooked corn
- 1 cup cornmeal
- 1 cup flour
- 4 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/4 cups milk
- 2 Tbsp. melted butter
- 1/4 cup shredded cheese
- 1/4 cup bacon bits
- sour cream (for topping)

Mix dry ingredients in one bowl, and mix wet ingredients in another. Combine and stir. Carefully cut corn off cob(s) and stir in corn, cheese, and bacon bits. Grease muffin tins with butter, or use paper cups. Fill 3/4 full and bake at 450° for 15-20 min. Let cook 5 min. Top with sour cream, cheese, and bacon bits. Enjoy!



Corn Contest Winner!
Joanna - Oxford, PA

Continued from page 11...

world—those who loved God and were good people, and those who did not love God and were sad, angry, and in need of Christ.

A large portion of this country's social and economic problems are a result of children growing up blaming the other economic strata for their problems. As the passage says, teach your children that “the LORD is the maker of them all.” More is caught than taught. It is not your words of instruction that molds their thinking; it is your many idle words that form their world views.

“A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished” (Proverbs 22:3).

Prudence is to consider the consequences and to act wisely and sensibly, thereby avoiding the evil that would result. The prudent man will see the moral ambush waiting him and will hide himself from it, but the simple pass on into the kill zone and are punished by the circumstance because of their lack of discernment.

The key to prudence is foreseeing the evil.

Children are known for their lack of prudence in all things. We are born imprudent, and we stay imprudent unless our parents impart wisdom and discernment. In some cases people learn prudence through the pains of life. A man who rides his horse full speed across a prairie dotted with gofer holes will become prudent on his next ride (with a different horse)—if there is a next ride. But there are some things in life that are too consequential

to be learned by experience. One imprudent act and your life will never be the same.

The key to prudence is foreseeing the evil. Children must be taught to navigate the opportunities of life with a discerning eye—like walking through the Mississippi river bottoms where there are cotton mouth snakes waiting to unload their venom. Pornography has fangs. Drugs and alcohol speak lies. Elicit erotica promises love but delivers the soul to a big empty room where there is no one to love but self. Covetousness promises to be a painless path to prosperity, but turns out to be an appetite that cannot be satiated. Pride believes self to be of greater value, but will in time leave one with nothing to hold but lonely judgment.

As our children were growing up, we talked to them about all the “evils” of life. When we saw a man purchasing hard liquor in the grocery store, we reminded the kids of the drunk we saw lying in the street, puking on himself. I often recounted stories of the people I knew who came into the rescue mission where I ministered. We pointed to particular situations of divorce and self-induced poverty, explaining the path that led to this ruin. We talked about unwed mothers, abortions, violence, anger, and all human weaknesses and failures.

We taught the children about walking on partially frozen ponds, swimming in the current, driving too fast, handling guns, knives, spears, and axes, and swinging on grape vines that had been cut more than a season. We warned them against smooth talkers and “cool” guys and gals. When they got to puberty we



Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

warned them about the dangers of their sexual drives and cautioned them against the advances of the sexes.

Pornography will trash your mind and then trash your life.

We frequently warned them against pornography. Some jerk would come through our community and leave pornographic books along the side of the road where the many children could find them. Some of the boys in our community found the first one by accident and out of curiosity devoured the content. Several of them became seekers of smut, storing their sordid material in the barns and bedrooms at home until they were old enough to seek out places that sold it, and then they purchased their own. They went to hell while walking among us in Pleasantville.

My children were thoroughly warned. I remember saying to the boys, “When you see a magazine with naked girls on the cover, you will be tempted to look. It will be exciting and captivating. But if you look you will never be the same. It will twist your view of sex and

marriage and you will be placed on a road that will assure you will never have the goodness that your mother and I have enjoyed. Pornography will trash your mind and then trash your life. It will create an itch that has no scratch, just more itch, until it becomes unbearable. I wanted them to “foresee the evil.”

I remember the day they came to the house with a hand full of magazines wrapped in paper so as to not allow any glimpse of the content. They had been walking down the road when they came upon a snare. They “hid themselves” from the evil by enfolding the contents into darkness. They were delighted to have found it before someone else did. They were so tickled with themselves, they were like the disciples who came back from casting out devils. They had smote evil hip and thigh. With great fanfare and celebration, we dropped the magazines in a burn barrel and sent them all to hell. As the fire consumed them, the children heard more words of warning and caution. It was a teachable moment.

We wrote the *Yell and Tell* books to help parents fortify their children against the assaults of evil predators.

“By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life” (Proverbs 22:4).

Humility is the most elusive virtue. Not only is it rare; it is hardly understood. Most people mistake lack of confidence and boldness for humility. Spoken doctrine is useless in imparting humility. Parental example is the only teacher. There is no way to live pridefully on the one hand, and, on the other, try to communicate humility. Again, more is caught than taught.

A humble person is a servant who cares. A proud person stands aloof making judgments, giving people the stiff arm, rationing compassion... Pride is to value one's self above others. Humility is the readiness to stoop and help. Children are rooted in their parents. Children publicly bear the fruit hypocritical parents shrewdly conceal from the public. Monkey see, monkey do. ***“Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward: he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them” (Proverbs 22:5).***

Froward—def.: to show displeasure with or disapproval of especially by facial expression.

Even at our church, I have viewed little girls projecting their froward faces. It is the look common to the children and teenagers in Hollywood productions. It is the face of public school children. It is the face behind the popular response, “Whatever.” It is an expression that says, “Why is everybody so dumb?” or, “Here we go again,” or, “I can't believe this!” It is the “You are so stupid” look. It is a contagious attitude, quickly spreading through a family, infecting all the children. It is at killer epidemic proportions in our society.



Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

The passage says that a person will keep his soul by removing himself far from the froward person. Do not allow your children to be put in a position to admire and want to emulate a froward child.

When you see that expression on anyone in your circle of acquaintance, seize the moment to teach your children. When you get home, say something like, “Did you see that ugly face Linda made? Her soul must be hurting. We must show her love, because if she keeps up with that attitude, no one is going to like her. When she gets old enough to get married, the only guy she will be able to attract is one that has blue hair and spends all his time playing video games. Poor child, wonder why she is so unhappy?”

Then you can have some fun by imitating the facial expression.

Have each of the children give it a try. Coach them in the portrayal of frowardness. You are not laughing at Linda. You are laughing at each other trying to say, “Whatever,” with the same resignation and dismissal as Linda. Practice rolling your eyes and making the indifferent body gestures. Five minutes of these theatrics and you have forever inoculated them against catching the froward disease. It is called “poisoning the well.” They will never want to drink from that fountain.

Then talk about what you can do to help Linda see the error of her attitude. It is important that they offer suggestions. This is proactive attitude training.

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6).

Solomon gets to the heart of his concern—training children is this doctrine of wisdom. He assures us that if we train up a child in the areas he is discussing, they will never have an occasion to depart from that training. Deb and I have written about seven books on child training, and we have published hundreds of hours of video and audio, so we won’t chase that rabbit here. We will allow Solomon to be our teacher as he continues his doctrine.

“The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender” (Proverbs 22:7).

Child training must be well rounded. It is training for life, and life is going to involve stewardship



Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

of money and possessions. Covetousness and greed are twin sins that saturate our present society. Teach your children the importance of living off the money they have and never borrow against tomorrow’s labor. Some wise parents have set up a mini economic system at home that will teach the children bookkeeping, interest, investment, savings, and entrepreneurship. Maintain a banking system that holds their money and pays interests on savings. You will need deposit slips and checks. They can even borrow money with interest. Some of them will get in a bind and may have their possessions repossessed. Great lesson to learn now when the stakes are so low! Do not show mercy. This is the real world of bankruptcy and poverty they are learning about.

This is one area you can teach them one thing while living another. It has nothing to do with attitude or facial expressions. It is just plain dollars and good sense.

“Solomon gets to the heart of his concern—
training children is this doctrine of wisdom.”

This is a magazine and not a 600-page book, so we must stop here. Read the rest of Proverbs 22 with your children and discuss the many good points. When our children were young, we carefully went through the book of Proverbs with them over and over again. I am serious when I say, It was our child training manual.

If you like this discussion, let me know and we can continue it next magazine. If you have some personal examples that illustrate any of the wisdom in Proverbs, send them to me. If you don't want your name used, be sure to let me know.

Proverbs 22:8-29

He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity: and the rod of his anger shall fail.

He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease.

He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend.

The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge, and he overthroweth the words of the transgressor.

The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.

The mouth of strange women is a deep pit: he that is abhorred of the LORD shall fall therein.

Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

He that oppresseth the poor to increase his riches, and he that giveth to the rich, shall surely come to want.

Bow down thine ear, and hear the

words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge.

For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips.

That thy trust may be in the LORD, I have made known to thee this day, even to thee.

Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge,

That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?

Rob not the poor, because he is poor: neither oppress the afflicted in the gate:

For the LORD will plead their cause, and spoil the soul of those that spoiled them.

Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go:

Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts.

If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?

Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

*Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men. **

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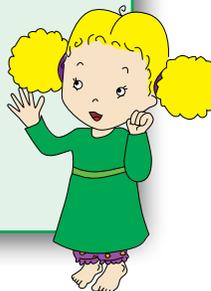




Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

Learning to Spend Money Wisely

By Shoshanna Easling

Life is better when shared.

MMy little girl, who is almost three years old, earned a dollar this week, and she was so excited. I asked her what she wanted to do with her money, and like any other tot she wanted immediate fleshly gratification. “Gum!” she squealed.

As we walked down the store aisle, I spotted a small roll of thin red ribbon and another of polka-dot ribbon. I showed her the ribbon and said to her, “Here are two rolls of ribbon you could buy with your dollar. If you bought the ribbon, then you could make bows, and brother could help you hot-glue them on

some of your old barrettes. I bet your cousins would like them for their hair, and then you could match! You could even teach them how to make hair bows.” Her eyes brightened at the thought of how happy her cousins would be and better yet, the wonder of teaching the older cousins how to make the fancy bows. I said, “It is your dollar, so you can buy gum or ribbon.” She grabbed the ribbon. She is learning that life is better when it is shared with those you love. Children must be gently steered into opportunities to mature out of immediate fleshly gratification.



They need to develop a greater vision of how to spend money, time, and life on things of greater value. You can aid the process by giving your children gifts that enable them to be creative and to share the fruit of their hands with others. *



Observation

When we travel and stay in motels I always talk to my children about where they are, where the steps are in case of fire, how to find our room, what floor we are on, etc. I am doing two things: first, if they were to get separated from me, it will give them a working knowledge of how to find me. Second, I am teaching them the art of observation.

Learning to Fill the Need

One hot summer day years ago, a homeschooling mom and her four kids saw an old lady crossing the street. They spoke of her plight: “Did you notice the old lady? She looks tired. Let’s help her.” They stopped the car and asked her if she wanted a ride, and then took her to her apartment, which was only a few blocks away. It was decided that the homeschooling mom would sit in the car with the younger kids while the 8-year-old brother carried the lady’s bags up the stairs and gave her the \$10 bill that was always kept in a small compartment in the car for such occasions.

I was that boy, and it was with fear and pride that I walked up those steps. My mom cared about people and was willing to invest her life helping others. She taught us children that it was our duty to be doers of the Word. All my siblings loved obeying our parents, and now as adults we greatly honor them; it is easy because they are greatly honorable people.





Awareness

Dad is always aware of what is behind him. He never walks into a restaurant without scouting the room with his eyes and then sitting with his back against the wall. When driving down the road he would tell us that what is behind you is just as important as—maybe more important than—what is in front of you, so always watch your back. I was raised to observe and be ready.

Tidbit

Education doesn't have to be perfect, and sometimes it is better if it is not. For example, some mothers take from their daughters the joy of learning to sew by expecting a perfect seam or not showing delight in their work. It is easy to stifle a child's first pleasures with demands of getting it right. The worst thing you can do is take her work away from her and finish it yourself. She will lose interest immediately and never want to try again. The same concept goes for a child learning music, cooking, building, sports, and even reading. The child's hope and her dreams of doing something original and praiseworthy are what keep her going. Provide the material and the praise, and the prize will be an industrious child.



Gifts to build productivity:

1. Wood-burning kit
2. Soldering gun
3. Hot-glue gun
4. Jewelry-making kit
5. Sewing box and material
6. Soft wood and carving knife
7. Paint, canvas, and brushes
8. Art supplies
9. Writing supplies or journal
10. Herbs to grow, soil, seeds, books on growing plants
11. A chemistry set or Erector Set
12. Recipe books or magazines and time in the kitchen



MISSIONS

**Go ye therefore, and teach
all nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost:
Matthew 28:19**



Photo: Aaron Aprille

If I Could Speak in Tongues

By Michael and Debi Pearl

How shall they hear?

TTo date we have translated, published, and distributed our 320-page graphic novel, *Good and Evil*, in 42 languages. The text and illustrations make God's story, from Genesis to Revelation, easy to read and understand. For them to know God's story someone has to tell them. There are millions of people that still have never even heard the name of Jesus. God's glorious story will never, never come to them through a preacher because there are not enough resources, time, or

manpower to make it happen. But we can send God's wonderful story to them through the use of the printed media. Our children first learned the Bible stories through illustrated Bible story books. It made them "wise unto salvation."

We continue to translate and print in additional languages, reaching people groups in remote places where we have never gone. Foreign publishers pay us (a very small amount) to print and sell our books in their countries. We are

being paid so they can do our work of distribution. We continue to print and distribute through missionaries, but we welcome the additional help. To have our Bible story books sold at secular book stores in China is more than we ever dreamed, but it is happening right now.

But what of those who cannot read? We have gone to significant expense to render the *Good and Evil* book into an animated graphic novel, a media especially popular in the East. The first team is now on the ground in Asia working with the local Hmong people to record their audio dramatization of *Good and Evil* into their language. Most remote village people have access to DVD players, but very few movies are in their language, which means they will gladly watch and re-watch the entire seven and a half hours. **If I could speak in tongues and had a captive audience in an Asian country, my first words would be, “Watch this DVD and you will learn God’s story.”** I would then sit quietly for the next eight hours while they learned all they need to know to be born again.

Soon preachers speaking in the Hmong language will play this DVD and the people will hear that God sent his son to die in payment for their sins. They will be shocked and ask, “Is this a true story? Is God really benevolent? Does he really



Photo: Shad Williams

love us? Did he really send his precious son to die to pay for our sins? How is it that we have never known? Can I bring my sister, my mother, everyone to see and hear this message from God?”

All mission-minded churches and ministries together do not have the resources to send a million preachers to learn the languages and take the message, but modern technology provides the next best thing. We make the *Good and Evil* book and animated DVD available to all worthy missionaries everywhere at no cost.

At this time, we are sending technical teams into central areas where bare-bones recording studios can be set up. We are working with missionaries to find readers in different native tongues and we hope that many languages can be recorded this year.

How shall they hear??? ✱

“And the gospel must first be published among all nations.”
~ Mark 13:10 ~

From Our Mailbox

A “Saved” Amish Lady

Pearls,

We are Amish. A while back I read your article, “Learning from the Atheists.” And it happened to me! I didn’t know what it was; I had no idea anything could feel like this, but I knew for the first time I had peace, a presence, a newness; I mean everything looked new! I wasn’t afraid to die. I was constantly saying or thinking, “Thank you, Jesus.” I told my husband, but he thought it was a woman’s hormone thing and shrugged it off.

When my neighbor (Amish too) heard me telling about it, she said it had happened to her too and that you call it “getting saved.” I told everybody because it was the most wonderful thing that had ever happened to me. It was amazing to me that just understanding that Jesus took my place as a sinner so that I could be forgiven could be so life changing. I thought everyone would be delighted to learn about this wonderful gift. Instead, I started getting visits from concerned leadership and family. As I said, we are Amish. My husband is one of the preachers, and having an overzealous wife really puts him in the hot seat, so you can see my talking about Jesus all the time really upsets him.

After a lot of embarrassing confrontations I was shunned, which means I was basically shut off from my family and friends. It would have been bearable, but I knew they would not even open my letters, so now there was no one to tell. It has been hard, and it really took my happiness right away. But I can still pray for those that I love to come to this knowledge, and I am seeing prayers answered, which really thrills me. It is so frustrating not to be allowed to tell anyone.

I got sick and had to go to the doctor several times. Even though I felt really bad it seemed like a wonderful opportunity to tell all the Englishers [*non Amish*] how Jesus had paid for their sins. It was sad because they just ignored me, which was worse than the Amish being upset.

My husband is mad at me and wants me to just keep my mouth shut, so I do; but then I see someone that I know is suffering from fear and doubt and I feel so guilty for not telling them about Jesus’ forgiveness. Should I obey my husband and not tell people? I read your *Created* book, which is good, and it is also frustrating. There are many among our people that are sadly depressed. They need to know forgiveness instead of taking drugs like Prozac and Zoloft, which is what they take. It is so sad to know they are struggling and that I have the answer. It is so wonderful to be free from fear, anxiety, bitterness, and depression; I know because I was once there. They each control the other in fear of being cast out (including my own husband) and yet they are all so depressed. How can it be right to NOT tell them?

I have many questions and ask for your prayers for my people.

— A “Saved” Amish lady

Mike Answers:

Here is your answer: “Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.” (Matthew 10:34–39)

“But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. **For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.** So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.” (Acts 4:19–21)

One Such as I

By Rachel Stoll

Will YOU stand in the gap?

I am a shy sort of person, of Amish background, and never one to make a ripple. A friend asked me to go to an abortion clinic with her to hand out information packets. I stood with the group but felt strange and wished I wasn't there. Then a young girl came up to me crying and told me that her boyfriend said she had to kill her baby.

I am still the shy sort, yet each week I drive to a large city and stand out in the freezing weather in the winter and the blistering heat in the summer and call out to the poor girls as they make their way into the place where their babies will be torn to pieces and then sucked from their bodies. On the day the big truck comes to pick up the tiny dead bodies, I stand and weep. My children go with me and they are learning. Some days we are reviled, some days young girls fall into our arms weeping; many hear the gospel, and occasionally a baby is saved. Timid little me stands in the gap making an eternal difference. It has changed who and what I am into something better.

Will YOU stand in the gap?

I Care

I care that a baby is aborted every 24 seconds!

I care that little babies feel pain during an abortion!

How many times have you comforted a sad, crying little baby?

I care that often they come out alive and lay there waiting to die all alone!

I care about the young girl who doesn't want to take her babies life, but feels cornered and trapped into doing so!

I care about the guilt-laden mommy who has to go on living after allowing such a crime done to her baby!

I am compelled to bring them the Gospel of hope!

I care all the time, constantly, even when I'm working in my house, or driving down the road, or shopping, or visiting with you, these cares are always in my heart!

Why did I not care sooner? I did not know... I want you to know so you can care too!

Maybe someday we might have the chance to hold these babies and kiss and cuddle them, wouldn't that be awesome?



Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com



No Greater Joy Fiscal Year End Report

By Mel Cohen, RFC, CFP, RTRP, General Manager

We are in the process of our full financial audit by an independent CPA firm. Last fiscal year was the cleanest audit we have received since we started the process, and we trust this year will be the same.

The fiscal year before this one was very difficult as NGJ spent \$107,139 more than we received. The year before that was even more difficult with us spending \$239,650 more than we received. We are thankful that the fiscal year that closed on June 30, 2013 was much stronger financially.

We ended the year in the black. Our income over expenses was \$125,828. The difference was in

the sacrificial giving you made to support us, keeping our ministry solvent and help us expand.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013 (Rounded)

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Sales	\$ 885,000
Contributions	\$ 610,000
Seminar Registration	\$ 11,000
Misc Income	\$ 3,000
Total Revenue	\$ 1,509,000

EXPENSES

Program Services:	
Cost of Goods	\$ 188,000
Ministry and Magazine	\$ 385,000
Printing and Publications	\$ 290,000
Supporting Services	\$ 520,000
Total Expenses	\$ 1,383,000

REVENUE OVER EXPENSES \$ 126,000

CHANGES

We made radical changes throughout the ministry this fiscal year to avoid losing it completely! We now operate this \$1.5 million ministry with a staff of 9 that work the equivalent hours of 6 full-time employees. The changes we made equal a cash differential of over \$250,000 in one fiscal year. We cut out benefits, eliminated raises and made changes in all departments. Every one of our staff performs many different tasks throughout the day in different departments. We are all cross-trained to work and handle the many tasks that are presented to us regardless of the department that the task was originally assigned to.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to our general fund allows us to use the funds where most needed. Contributions that are designated to a specific area of our ministry are used in their entirety for that purpose. Unlike other ministries, we do not reduce the amount by an administrative fee.

The Good and Evil Project continues to be our main ministry focus. We continue to add new languages, have completed and released the animation project, and have placed 36 languages on our website for missionaries to read and use in ministry, free of charge. We also continue to expand our military ministry, prison ministry, and ministry to missionaries and church leaders worldwide.

SALES

About 60% of our revenues are from the sales of the over 100 products that we offer. This covers all of our overhead and many ministry projects. These products minister biblical truths throughout the world in many languages. We avoid administrative fees on all designated contributions through our sales income and our licensing agreements. We now have over 70 signed licensing agreements that pay NGJ an upfront licensing fee and royalties twice a year.

Although we had a great year financially compared to the last two years, we encourage you to continue to support NGJ financially to allow us to spread the Gospel and continue to minister with our materials throughout the world. With this, we were still well below our peak year of 2008 where we took in \$1.9 million. Our downward trend of expenses over income for 5 years prior to this year almost mirrored the general condition and economy of the country. Please contact me if you have any questions or feel led to financially help NGJ by regular donations, through stock transfers, life insurance, or your estate plan. ✨

Editor Note: Mel is a certified financial planner, a registered financial consultant and a registered tax return preparer, and has over 30 years of experience in corporate finances for both nonprofits and for profit organizations. If you have any questions on our Ministry's finances contact Mel at 931-593-2484 or email him at mcohen@nogreaterjoy.org.



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A Vision

By Shalom Brand

Hitting the road.

All you wives out there married to a visionary husband will understand and appreciate the story you are about to read.

A few months ago my husband came to me and said, “We need to do something different. Get ready, I don’t know what it is yet, but I want us to be ready.”

He called home from work one day to tell me, “I called an auction house and I want to sell all of our stuff, so we are not tied down!” I started cleaning out the house and putting stuff in boxes, getting ready for God to lead him. He knew that he wanted to do something but did not know where or what. Every night we would talk about what we might do. Then out of the blue we had several opportunities come up.

He would have been going from being the owner of a business to a new job in another state. So I asked, “Why move just for a job when we have a business here and a good place to raise our family? I think Satan is just tempting us. We need to wait and see what God has for us.” Justin agreed, and turned the job offers down.



Photo: HomesteadCommunityPost.com

Later on he told me, “I just wish we could travel around and work for a ministry at the same time.” The next day, not being aware of our recent doings, Dad and Mom asked us if we would be interested in traveling to **Home School Conferences** for No Greater Joy. Justin had an instant peace that this was God’s will for us.

So here we are preparing to hit the road this coming spring when the new conference season starts. Life is truly good if you wait on the Lord and know that He is in control at all times. If you know of a home school conference near you, big or small, contact us: sbrand@nogreaterjoy.org
~ Shalom *

If you know of any home school conferences, contact us!



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Photo: Elizabeth Stewart

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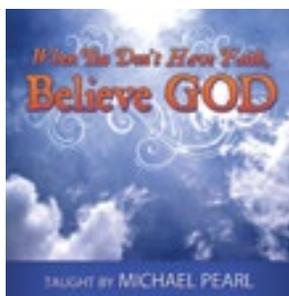
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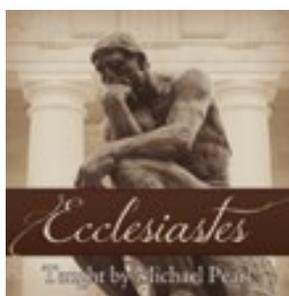
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By Michael Pearl

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By Michael Pearl

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These 9 messages were delivered to the church at Cane Creek in the spring of 2013.

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Letter from a Foster Mom

I just wanted to let you all know that I mentioned your "Yell and Tell" book in a court hearing last month. Our family provides foster care, and last year, after I read your precious book to my 5-year-old foster daughter (for the hundredth time -- she loves that book!), she confided in me that she had been molested by her great-grandfather. I think because your book explains a delicate issue so well, she felt comfortable about confiding in me. It turns out that some of her siblings were molested as well.



Photo: Bobbie Sue Johnson

At the court hearing, I had to explain the circumstances of when and why she told me, and I mentioned your book. My foster daughter also had to testify, and I believe that your book made a huge impact in how she understands that there are just bad people out there who want to do bad things, what she can do to protect herself and others and that it wasn't her fault, as well as giving her the courage to face 30 adults in a room and tell her story. We now have her siblings with us too, and Lord willing, we plan on adopting them soon.

Thank you so much for writing a book that has helped save these little ones from further abuse. May Yahweh bless you all! Shalom!

— Foster Mom in US

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